CITY OF LODI INFORMAL INFORMATIONAL MEETING "SHIRTSLEEVE" SESSION CARNEGIE FORUM, 305 WEST PINE STREET TUESDAY, AUGUST 14, 2007

An Informal Informational Meeting ("Shirtsleeve" Session) of the Lodi City Council was held Tuesday, August 14, 2007, commencing at 7:00 a.m.

A. ROLL CALL

Present: Council Members – Hansen, Hitchcock, Katzakian, and Mayor Johnson

Absent: Council Members – Mounce

Also Present: City Manager King, City Attorney Schwabauer, and City Clerk Johl

B. TOPIC(S)

B-1 "Utilities Quarterly Update"

City Manager King briefly introduced the subject matters.

Deputy City Manager Krueger provided an overview of the water and wastewater utilities quarterly update. Specific topics of discussion included summary, wastewater financials ending June 30, 2007, wastewater operating expenses, water financials ending June 30, 2007, and water expenses by series.

In response to Mayor Johnson, Mr. Krueger stated that the other figure in the wastewater fund is primarily interest.

In response to Council Member Hitchcock, Public Works Director Prima stated the service water facility and an unfinished water well may account for what was not done from the capital outlay funds.

In response to Council Member Hansen, Mr. King stated the repayment of the previously borrowed \$6 million was accounted for and set up in a rate structure through a repayment schedule.

In response to Council Member Hansen, Mr. Krueger stated the savings mainly come from the non-purchase of granular activated carbon filters, staff shortages, and other various items. Mr. Krueger stated the other payments amount will be less than shown because all anticipated expenses, including the Woodbridge water payment, were conservatively accounted for.

In response to Council Member Hitchcock, Mr. Krueger stated unused amounts are rolled over to the next year if there is a contract because the amount is encumbered. Mr. King provided a brief overview of the process associated with transfers to the fund balance.

Electric Utility Director Morrow provided an overview of the electric utility quarterly update. Specific topics of discussion included the cash position and overview, financial results, electric expenses by series, sales, heating and cooling degree days, other revenue, the Northern California Power Agency (NCPA) general operating reserve, financial forecast, financial ratings, power supply, open position, and overall summary.

In response to Council Member Hitchcock, Mr. Morrow stated last year the market surpassed the budget fairly quickly due to timing. Mr. Morrow stated the market can again fluctuate this year, but there is a better cushion.

In response to Mayor Johnson, Mr. Morrow stated the upcoming year will be more stable because in 2007 the budget was finalized before some purchases were made. He stated this year the purchases were primarily made before the budget was finalized, but there is still the fluctuating market factor.

In response to Mayor Johnson, Mr. Morrow stated the transmission cost may be lower because of ancillary services and he will bring back additional information regarding the same at the next update. Mr. King stated transmission cost was one of the biggest variables last year.

In response to Mayor Johnson, Mr. Morrow stated there is no hard line minimum amount that NCPA would like us to maintain. He stated they are looking for the City to maintain a certain level of reserves; however, that is consistent with a three-month purchase price.

In response to Myrna Wetzel, Mr. Morrow stated they do receive interest and that amount is placed into securities.

In response to Mayor Johnson, Mr. Morrow and Mr. King stated the Roseville money is reflected in the purchase power chart and the money will be placed into the reserve to further the Council's goal and policy of increasing its reserves.

In response to Council Member Hansen, Mr. Morrow stated the estimated completion date for Roseville is October 1, 2007.

In response to Council Member Hitchcock, Mr. Morrow stated purchase power cost fluctuation is very difficult to predict and the 2011 anticipated fluctuation is based on NCPA's estimate of gas prices going down.

In response to Mayor Johnson, Council Member Hansen and Mr. Morrow stated that there may be some new technology available with the geothermal, which is less than 20% of the City's renewable energy portfolio.

City Manager King provided an overview of the newly received ratings from Standard and Poor's and Fitch. He stated the improved ratings were based on the City's reduced open position, policy for reserves, and overall consistency. Council Member Hansen stated he is meeting with Fitch representatives and the goal is to continue improving and receive a AAA-rating again.

B-2 "Electric Utility Department Westside Substation Overview"

Electric Utility Director Morrow provided an overview of the Westside substation. Specific topics of discussion included substations, typical substation layout, Westside substation location, site map, property details, overview, preliminary layout, load serving capacity, schedule, tasks completed, proposed request for proposals, and summary.

In response to Council Member Hansen, Mr. Morrow stated, while there is current reliability and capacity, the goal is to ensure there is future reliability and capacity.

In response to Council Member Hitchcock, Mr. Morrow stated the standard load on a normalized station is 48 megawatts or below since this ensures that additional loads may be picked up if needed without harming the system.

In response to Myrna Wetzel, Mr. Morrow stated there is no way to store energy at a substation as they are only working on capacity.

Continued August 14, 2007

In response to Council Member Hitchcock, Mr. Morrow stated they are generally looking at 70%.

In response to Mayor Johnson, Mr. Morrow stated new development will be contributing to the station and they will look to borrow funds until the development comes online. In response to Council Member Hitchcock, Mr. Morrow stated there is approximately \$4 million remaining from the previous borrowing.

In response to Council Member Hansen, Mr. Morrow stated the best case scenario for the Lodi Project is 2011, but it will likely be a bit later than that and there may be good time correlation between the two.

City Manager King stated the pipeline rehabilitation information will be brought to Council on September 5.

C. COMMENTS BY THE PUBLIC ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Myrna Wetzel spoke in opposition to the graffiti within the City and gave examples of the same.
 Mr. King provided an overview of staff discussions, housing, proactive efforts, the County ordinance, and staff and/or contracting services to eliminate graffiti.

In response to Council Member Hitchcock, Mr. Prima stated the graffiti removal vehicle goes out twice a week and response time is generally within a week in good weather conditions.

In response to Council Member Hitchcock, Mr. King stated Community Development Block Grant funds could be expended on graffiti removal and the current budgeted amounts could be expended on removal as well. He stated he would like to have a full-time removal program if possible. Mayor Johnson suggested staff look into the matter and provide some thoughts to the City Council regarding the same.

D. ADJOURNMENT

No action was taken by the City Council. The meeting was adjourned at 8:18 a.m.

ATTEST:

Randi Johl City Clerk **AGENDA TITLE:**

Receive Quarterly Utility reports from Electric, Water and Wastewater Utility

Departments for 4th Quarter Fiscal Year 2006-2007

MEETING DATE:

August 14, 2007

PREPARED BY:

Electric Utility, Water Utility and Wastewater Utility Departments

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Receive Quarterly Utility reports for Electric, Water and Wastewater

Utility Departments for 4th Quarter Fiscal Year 2006-2007.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

The attached Electric, Water and Wastewater Utility Department financial reports for the 4th Quarter Fiscal Year 2006-2007 are

presented in accordance with established reporting requirements.

In summary the operations for the 4th quarter of fiscal year 2006-07 show the following financial results:

Electric Utility

Other Income up \$700K from budget

FY07 Power supply costs up \$2.7M from budget

Other O&M expenses down \$2.5M

FY07 Year-end cash at ~\$5.4M

Wastewater

- Cash balance is \$4.9 million
- Revenues exceeded target at 109 % of estimated
- Operating expenses under budget at 94% of budget

Water

- Cash balance is \$1.6 million
- Revenues have exceeded target at 108 % of estimated
- Fund Operating expenses under budget at 98% of budget

Staff from the Electric, Wastewater and Water departments will highlight areas of interest and the financial results from the attached during the presentation at the shirtsleeve meeting on August 14, 2007.

im Krueger

Deputy City Manager

APPROVED:

Blair King, City Manager



Water and Wastewater FY07 Quarterly Update

(Through June 30, 2007)

City Council Meeting August 14, 2007



Summary

WASTEWATER:

- Cash balance is \$4.9 million
- Revenues exceeded target at 109 % of estimated
- Operating expenses under budget at 94% of budget

WATER:

- Cash balance is \$1.6 million
- Revenues have exceeded target at 108 % of estimated
- Fund Operating expenses under budget at 98% of budget



Wastewater Financials Preliminary Ending 6/30/07

Revenue	FY Budget	Actuals	% of Budget				
Sales Revenues	\$8,016,500	8,468,188	105.6%				
Other Revenues	484,400	1,133,118	233.9%				
Impact Mitigation Fees	1,607,000	1,453,616	90.5%				
Total Revenues	\$10,107,900	\$11,054,922	109.4%				
Expenses							
Operating	\$5,063,121	4,146,792	81.9%				
Non-Operating	908,793	1,206,533	132.8%				
Capital Outlay (See note below)	298,500	555,523	186.1%				
Total Expenses	\$6,270,414	\$5,908,848	94.2%				
Net Revenue for Debt Service	\$3,837,486	\$5,146,074	134.1%				
Debt Service	3,339,110	3,383,421	101.3%				
Net Revenue	\$498,376	\$1,762,653	353.7%				
Less In-lieu Transfer to General Fund	892,500	892,500	100.0%				
Net Increase (Decrease) in Cash	(\$394,124)	\$870,153	-220.8%				
Beginning Cash Balance	\$ 2,956,954	\$ 4,251,700	143.8%				
Other Changes in Cash	(1,010,000)	(152,141)					
Ending Cash Balance	\$1,552,830	\$4,969,712	320.0%				
Debt Proceeds Reserve	Debt Proceeds Reserve \$8,650,564						
Note: Capital projects budget of \$30,543,500 (in	budget document) n	ot included in this	s analysis 3				



Wastewater Operating Expenses by Series

	FY	'07 Budget	FY07 Q4	% of Budget
Personnel	\$	2,468,321	\$ 2,224,343	90.1%
Supplies, Materials, Services		877,254	807,661	92.1%
Equipment, Land, Structures		102,675	124,795	121.5%
Other Payments		795,313	369,035	46.4%
Utilities & Communication		819,558	620,958	75.8%
Total Operating Expenses	\$	5,063,121	\$ 4,146,792	81.9%

Water Financials Preliminary Ending 6/30/07

Revenue	FY Budget	Actuals	% of Budget
Sales Revenues	\$9,707,100	\$9,937,820	102.4%
Other Revenues	399,900	1,082,205	270.6%
Impact Mitigation Fees	234,000	119,837	51.2%
Total Revenues	\$10,341,000	\$11,139,862	107.7%
Expenses			
Operating	4,468,583	4,372,974	97.9%
Non-Operating	909,259	962,055	105.8%
Capital Outlay	6,926,748	4,324,293	62.4%
Total Expenses	\$12,304,590	\$9,659,322	78.5%
Net Revenue for Debt Service	(\$1,963,590)	\$1,480,540	
Debt Service	227,976	68,132	29.9%
Net Revenue	(\$2,191,566)	\$1,412,408	
In-lieu Transfer to General Fund	767,040	767,040	100.0%
Net Increase (Decrease) in Cash	(\$2,958,606)	\$645,368	
Beginning Cash Balance	\$ 829,000	\$ 87,136	See note below
Other Changes in Cash	2,908,617	891,271	
Ending Cash Balance (preliminary estimate)	\$779,001	\$1,623,775	Includes \$1.3 M
Central Plume Trust Account	\$6,056,155	\$8,384,445	From Fire IMF



Water Expenses by Series

	FY07 Budget	FY07 Q4	% of Budget
Personnel	\$ 1,211,337	\$ 1,049,013	86.6%
Supplies, Materials, Services	621,811	298,688	48.0%
Equipment, Land, Structures	3,851	3,890	101.0%
Other Payments	1,751,844	2,406,865	137.4%
Utilities & Communication	879,740	614,518	69.9%
Total Operating Expenses	\$ 4,468,583	\$ 4,372,974	97.9%



Electric Utility Department

FY07 Quarterly Update (Through June 30, 2007)

City Council Shirtsleeve Session August 14, 2007



FY07 Overview

Cash position improved \$1.8 million in FY07.

- Other Income up \$700K from budget
- FY07 Power supply costs up \$2.7M from budget
- Other O&M expenses down \$2.5M
- FY07 Year-end cash at ~\$5.4M

FY08 Open Position Only 7%



FY07 Financial Results

Cash Flow			
Preliminary Unaudited	FY07	FY07	FY07
Revenue	Budget	Actuals	Difference
Sales Revenues	65,876,175	65,797,247	(78,928)
Other Revenues	1,008,564	1,711,340	702,776
Total Revenues	66,884,739	67,508,587	623,848
Expenses			
Purchase Power	41,955,968	44,664,680	2,708,712
Non Power	11,874,477	9,320,093	(2,554,384)
Total Expenses	53,830,445	53,984,773	154,328
Net Revenue for Debt Service	13,054,294	13,523,814	469,520
Debt Service	6,265,777	6,531,392	265,615
Net Revenue	6,788,517	6,992,422	203,905
In-lieu Transfer to General Fund	6,779,000	6,779,000	-
Net Increase (Decrease) in Working Capital	9,517	213,422	203,905
Beginning Cash Balance	3,631,402	3,631,402	-
Changes in GOR	-	1,624,786	1,624,786
Ending Cash Balance	3,640,919	5,469,610	1,828,691



Electric Expenses by Series

	FY	'07 Budget	F	FY07 Actual	% of Budget
Personnel	\$	6,162,788	\$	5,044,431	81.9%
Supplies, Materials, Services	\$	1,347,619	\$	1,118,174	83.0%
Equipment, Land, Structures	\$	905,041	\$	542,249	59.9%
Other Payments	\$	479,100	\$	240,091	50.1%
Communication & Transportation	\$	81,683	\$	80,243	98.2%
Total Operating Expenses	\$	8,976,231	\$	7,025,189	78.26%



FY07 Sales

	kWh					
Customer Class	FY Projections	FY Actuals	% Difference			
Residential	161,851,811	159,247,195	-1.61%			
Small Commercial	166,024,754	165,935,314	-0.05%			
Large Commercial/Small Industrial	41,192,794	38,420,684	-6.73%			
Industrial	104,615,054	95,137,552	-9.06%			
TOTAL	473,684,413	458,740,745	-3.15%			

	Revenue						
Customer Class	FY	' Projections		FY Actuals	% Difference		
Residential	\$	26,815,846	\$	27,013,494	0.74%		
Small Commercial	\$	25,900,955	\$	25,313,133	-2.27%		
Large Commercial/Small Industrial	\$	5,338,156	\$	4,814,445	-9.81%		
Industrial	\$	7,821,218	\$	8,656,175	10.68%		
TOTAL	\$	65,876,175	\$	65,797,247	-0.12%		



HDD and **CDD**

Month	Year	HDD	Normal	CDD	Normal
July	2006	0	0	650	504
August	2006	0	0	449	430
September	2006	3	13	288	263
October	2006	96	76	9	73
November	2006	316	348	2	0
December	2006	530	609	0	0
January	2007	617	592	0	0
February	2007	348	391	0	0
March	2007	157	313	9	0
April	2007	106	169	45	18
May	2007	19	54	158	111
June	2007	1	6	297	254
Total		2,193	2,571	1,907	1,653



Other Revenue

Other Revenue	Budget Actual			Actual
Investment Earnings	\$	426,644	\$	889,931
Property Revenue	\$	86,800	\$	381,124
Work for Others/City	\$	495,120	\$	440,285
TOTAL	\$	1,008,564	\$	1,711,340



NCPA "GOR"

- General Operating Reserve
- Provides funding for contingencies
- GOR levels
 - >\$3,113,432 (July 1, 2006)
 - >\$4,738,218 (June 30, 2007)

GOR Increase of \$1,624,786



Financial Forecast

	Actual FY06	Preliminary FY07	Budgeted FY08	Projected FY09	Projected FY10	Projected FY11
Revenue						
Sales Revenues	59,112,591	65,797,247	66,889,770	67,416,135	68,439,986	69,726,512
ECA Revenue	-	-	3,188,145	6,242,323	6,261,176	(267,740)
Other Revenues	2,263,669	1,711,340	1,022,564	1,044,564	1,063,564	1,082,564
Total Revenues	61,376,260	67,508,587	71,100,478	74,703,022	75,764,726	70,541,336
Expenses						
Purchase Power	42,838,940	44,664,680	42,333,517	45,695,736	46,313,769	40,537,757
Non-Power Costs	10,902,499	9,320,093	11,300,000	12,091,000	12,937,370	13,842,986
Total Expenses	53,741,439	53,984,773	53,633,517	57,786,736	59,251,139	54,380,743
Net Revenue Available for DS	7,634,821	13,523,814	17,466,961	16,916,286	16,513,587	16,160,594
Debt Service	5,963,454	6,531,392	9,131,628	6,628,356	6,670,247	7,909,346
Net Revenue	1,671,367	6,992,422	8,335,333	10,287,930	9,843,340	8,251,248
In-lieu Transfer To General Fund	6,050,000	6,779,000	6,873,228	6,968,766	7,065,632	7,163,844
Net Increase (Decrease)	(4,378,633)	213,422	1,462,105	3,319,164	2,777,708	1,087,404
Beginning Cash	4,896,603	3,631,402	5,469,610	6,931,715	10,250,879	13,028,588
GOR	3,113,432	1,624,786	-	-	-	-
Ending Cash	3,631,402	5,469,610	6,931,715	10,250,879	13,028,588	14,115,991



Financial Ratings

 Fitch upgrades certificates of participation (COP) notes to 'BBB' from 'BBB-'. The rating outlook is changed from "negative outlook" to "positive".

 <u>S&P</u> changes the "negative outlook" to "<u>stable</u>" for electric utility COP notes of '<u>BBB+</u>'.



FY07 Power Supply

	Budget	Actuals	Change in \$\$	Change
Generation	\$36,639,623	\$42,658,638	\$ 6,019,015	16.43%
Transmission	\$ 5,934,099	\$ 4,968,693	\$ (965,406)	-16.27%
Management Services	\$ 2,243,590	\$ 2,225,106	\$ (18,484)	-0.82%
Third Party Revenue	\$ 2,861,344	\$ 5,187,757	\$ 2,326,413	81.30%
TOTAL	\$41,955,968	\$44,664,680	\$ 2,708,712	6.46%



FY08 "Open Position"

	Lodi Total		% of	Lodi HLH		% of	Lodi LLH
	Surplus/(Deficit)	Load	Load	Surplus/(Deficit)	Load	Load	Surplus/(Deficit)
July 2007	(3,699)	53,597	-6.9%	(763)	33,935	-2.2%	(2,936)
August	(3,767)	49,592	-7.6%	(2,015)	32,886	-6.1%	(1,752)
September	223	42,940	0.5%	460	26,615	1.7%	(237)
October	(1,209)	38,430	-3.1%	(1,194)	25,325	-4.7%	(16)
November	(1,401)	35,719	-3.9%	(616)	23,150	-2.7%	(784)
December	(2,023)	37,802	-5.4%	(306)	23,379	-1.3%	(1,717)
Jan 2008	(5,898)	36,994	-15.9%	(3,722)	23,390	-15.9%	(2,175)
February	(5,403)	35,512	-15.2%	(3,209)	23,016	-13.9%	(2,194)
March	(2,963)	36,637	-8.1%	(1,437)	23,066	-6.2%	(1,525)
April	(3,648)	36,293	-10.1%	(4,287)	23,797	-18.0%	639
May	(1,000)	39,059	-2.6%	(1,955)	25,104	-7.8%	956
June	(3,109)	43,062	-7.2%	(1,995)	27,469	-7.3%	(1,114)
Net Total	(33,896)	485,638	-7.0%	-21,039	311,132	-6.8%	-12,858



FY07 Summary

Cash position improved \$1.8 million in FY07.

- Other Income up \$700K from budget
- FY07 Power supply costs up \$2.7M from budget
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- FY07 Year-end cash at ~\$5.4M

FY08 Open Position Only 7%



MEMORANDUMOffice of George F. Morrow, Director

TO:

Blair King, City Manager

FROM:

George Morrow, Electric Utility Director

DATE:

August 10, 2007

SUBJECT:

Overview of EUD's Planned Westside Substation

The Electric Utility Department's electric system distribution plans include the construction of a new substation for operation as early as 2010.

This new Westside Substation would be located at the southwest corner of Kettleman Lane and Westgate Drive. Land for the substation was purchased by the City in 2001.

In order to keep the project moving forward, EUD plans to request City Council approval in the near future to issue an RFP for preliminary engineering services and wall construction.

Attached is a PowerPoint presentation providing background on the proposed new substation for your information.

George F. Morrow

Electric Utility Director



Electric Utility Department

Westside Substation

City Council Shirtsleeve Session August 14, 2007



SUBSTATIONS

- Substations facilitate the transfer of bulk electric power from generating sources to load centers.
- At load centers, power is then distributed to "end users" (homes, businesses, etc.)
- Substations also provide mechanism for routing power around system problems (e.g. storm damage, equipment malfunctions, load imbalances, etc.)



Typical Substation Layout



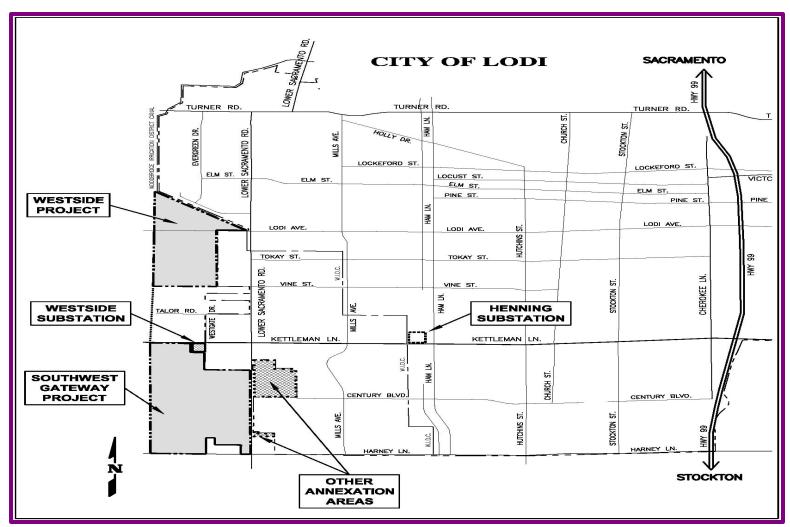


Westside Substation Location

- Corner of Westgate Drive & HWY 12
 - -At the southern side of HWY 12
 - And western side of Westgate Drive
- Approximately 325ft by 301ft
- Included in the City's Westside Facilities
 Master Plan dated January 26, 2001



Site Map





Property Details

- Portion (~4.10 Acres) of land under APN 058-030-01 owned by the Reichmuth
- Purchased by the City on August 12, 2003 for the Electric Substation Parcel
- Recorded by San Joaquin LAFCo on November 13, 2003
- APN 058-030-07 under the Van Ruiten & Zunino Annexation per Doc# 2003-263078
- 70% for EUD and ~30% for PW

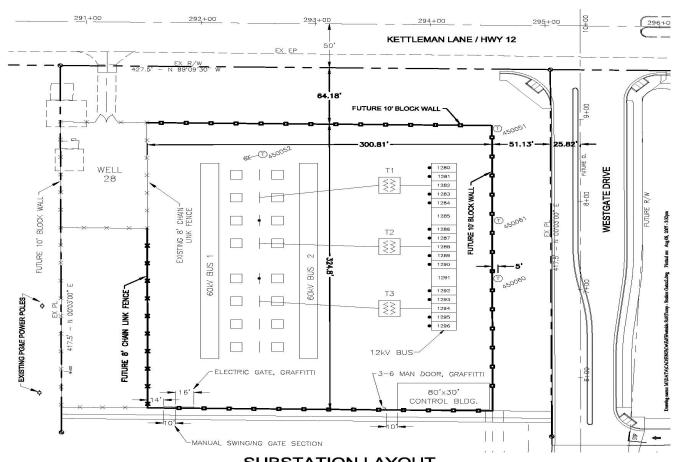


Overview

- Two-32MVA TR & a space for 3rd unit
- Design: Open construction or GIS
- Eight to twelve maximum 12kV feeders
- Five 60kV line interconnections
 - McLane to Westside Line (existing)
 - Henning to Westside Line (existing)
 - Industrial to Westside Line (in construction)
 - Double circuit NCPA to Westside Lines (under siting evaluation)



Preliminary Layout



SUBSTATION LAYOUT
PROPOSED WESTSIDE SUBSTATION

Load Serving Capacity

- Maximum Substation Capacity = 64MVA
- Henning Substation non-coincidental peak load
 = 55.04MW (86% of capacity)
- New Electrical Loads (Total = 22.68MW):
 - Southwest Gateway Project = 6.61MW
 - WalMart Shopping Center = 3.70MW
 - Westside Project = 4.13MW
 - Other Annexation Projects = 1.2MW
 - Henning Load Transfer (keep <75% load) = 7.04MW



Schedule

- Preliminary Engineering Phase = 6 mo.
- Block Wall Construction = 6 mo.
- Substation Final Design Phase = 18 mo.
- Environmental Study = 4 mo.
- Substation Construction = 12 mo.
- Westside Substation Development =
 3 to 4 years



Tasks Completed

- Property survey of substation lot and 60kV steel poles south of Hwy 12
- Mounted 60kV steel poles north of Hwy 12
- Designed 12kV underground systems from the substation (north & south of HWY 12) to the annexation projects
- Laid out 12kV padmounted switches and vaults for the 600-amp main UG feeders



Proposed RFP

- Soil resistivity test
- Preliminary ground grid design per Std. 80
- Ground potential rise (GPR) study
- Preparation of preliminary substation layout, design, criteria, and cost/benefit analysis
- Engineering & design perimeter block wall fence and landscape



Summary

- New substation planned on westside of Lodi
- Previously acquired site is at Westside Road and Kettleman
- RFP for preliminary engineering tasks and wall construction planned in near future
- Projected in-service date of 2011

Prevent Graffiti: Get the Facts

www.graffitihurts.org

1. What is graffiti?

You've probably seen graffiti somewhere in your community. It's the words, colors, and shapes drawn or scratched on buildings, overpasses, train cars, desks, and other surfaces. It's done without permission and it's against the law. The FBI's Uniform Crime Reporting Program considers graffiti vandalism.

The term graffiti comes from the Greek word *graphein*, which means, "to write". Graffiti today ranges from simple, one-color monikers (like a nickname), called "tags", repeated on many surfaces to complex compositions of several colors.

2. How is a community really "hurt" by graffiti?

Graffiti sends the signal that nobody cares, attracting other forms of crime and street delinquency to the neighborhood.

Graffiti drains tax dollars. Funds that could be used for schools, roads, parks, and other community improvements, are used for graffiti clean up.

Graffiti decreases a resident's feeling of safety. Neighborhoods with graffiti see a decrease in property values, loss of business growth and tourism, and reduced ridership on transit systems.

3. What is the best way to prevent graffiti?

The most effective way to prevent graffiti is to remove it promptly. While this may be difficult, studies show that removal within 24 to 48 hours results in a nearly zero rate of reoccurrence.

Consistent enforcement of local ordinances with strict penalties for graffiti vandalism is also effective. In many communities citizens can report graffiti using a designated 800 number. Citizens can also "adopt-a-spot" and keep it graffiti free. Or, turn a graffiti-plagued wall into a mural. Paint-brush murals are almost never hit with graffiti.

4. Do "legal walls" really work?

Communities that have tried "legal" walls, an area that permits graffiti, find them ineffective at preventing graffiti. Over a dozen cities in California, Illinois, and other states have all found them to be "a failure".

While well intentioned, legal walls send a mixed message and often cause more harm than good. They may appear to work at first, but after a period of time, the surrounding areas also become covered with graffiti. Data also shows no decrease in arrests for graffiti in cities where there are legal walls.

5. How do you remove graffiti?

There are several ways to remove graffiti. The best method for removal is determined by the amount of graffiti, its location, and the vandalized surface. The low-cost method is the paint-out, which is simply to paint over the graffiti. Many city graffiti abatement personnel use solvents or chemicals to remove graffiti. Pressure washing the surface is also used.

Communities Primed to Stay Graffiti Free

First Response Team in Burlington, VT

Launched in December 2001, First Response Team repaired graffiti vandalism in over 900 locations during 2004, racked up over 1,700 volunteer hours, painted seven murals in high-graffiti areas, and in a local survey found that 92% of respondents reported a decrease in graffiti in their neighborhood. With an operating budget of \$37,000, the program includes removal within 72 hours, weekly volunteer cleanups, volunteer training, youth service learning, adopt a block, mural and other restorative activities, and community service for prosecuted graffiti vandals.

Operation Brightside, Inc., Kansas City, KS

In 2003, to respond to an increase in graffiti, the Unified Government of Wyandotte County/Kansas City, KS, built a coalition of public and private organizations to assess the graffiti problem and design a solution. This Graffiti Task Force targeted ordinance changes, expanded public and youth education, and coordinated a new abatement effort. After one year, a total of 644 graffiti cleanup projects were completed, 96% of calls to the graffiti hotline have been resolved, and the new code enforcement process is providing victims with free assistance.

Ten Things You Can Do To Prevent Graffiti

- 1. Get educated. Learn about graffiti, how it impacts your community, and who is responsible for graffiti prevention and clean-up in your area.
- 2. Report graffiti to the appropriate authorities.
- 3. Organize a paint-out. Gather supplies and community volunteers to remove graffiti in your neighborhood.
- 4. Plan a paint-brush mural to cover a wall continuously plagued with graffiti.
- 5. Coordinate a graffiti awareness campaign at your school or in the community.
- 6. Make a presentation on graffiti prevention to your school, class, or neighborhood group.
- 7. Adopt a spot in your school or community and make sure it stays clean and free of graffiti.
- 8. Plant trees or other greenery near a graffiti-plagued wall. This will help prevent access.
- 9. Ask your community to install lighting in areas that are dark and often hit with graffiti.
- 10. Contact a local Keep America Beautiful affiliate (www.kab.org) and volunteer to help keep your community clean.

What's Graffiti Hurts®?

It's a non-profit, community-based graffiti prevention program. **Graffiti Hurts**® was developed through a partnership between Keep America Beautiful, Inc., a non-profit organization dedicated to litter prevention and clean communities, and The Sherwin-Williams Company, maker of Krylon® brand paint.

Graffiti Hurts® provides resources to help community leaders initiate graffiti prevention activities, and to educate youth and adults about the impact of graffiti vandalism on neighborhoods. To learn more, visit www.graffitihurts.org.

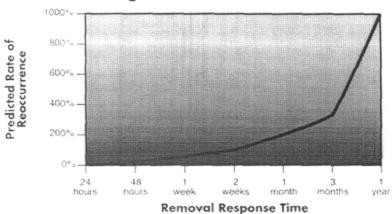
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Learn More

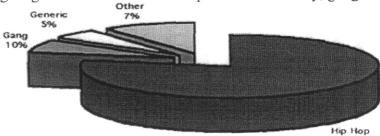
Fast Facts About Graffiti - Hechos rápidos acerca de los grafitis

- Graffiti cleanup takes a big chunk out of municipal budgets. The city of San Jose spends about \$3 million a year fighting graffiti, Minneapolis, MN about \$4 million, and \$2 million in Portland, OR.
- Graffiti is the most common type of property vandalism (35%) according to the Bureau of Justice Statistics.
- Immediate removal within 24-48 hours is the key to successful graffiti prevention.

Quick and Effective Eradication Yields Longterm Positive Results



- There are four types of graffiti-hip-hop, gang, hate, and generic (non-threatening messages like "Bobby loves Suzy" or "Class of 2003").
- About 80% of graffiti is hip hop or "tagger" graffiti. Another 5% are "pieces". Nationally, gang



graffiti makes up about 10% of graffiti.

- Most studies show the majority of "taggers" are males between 12 and 21 years old.
 Approximately 15% of graffiti vandals are young females.
- Arrest data from 17 major cities shows that 50% to 70% of all street-level graffiti is created by suburban adolescents, predominately males between the ages of 12 and 19.
- Community paint-brush murals are rarely defaced by graffiti and instill a sense of pride among those who live nearby.